



FirstNet Transition to OITS

Allan Sadowski

Director of Infrastructure Planning – FirstNet SPOC

December 18, 2014

Agenda:

- Background
- Planning
- Timeline
- Cost
- Decisions
- Questions

FirstNet Background:

- The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 establishes responsibility for building and operating a Nationwide Public Safety Wireless Broadband System
- FirstNet is a **4G wireless data communications** cellular network providing Emergency Responders with a robust data interoperability capability – where none exists or for when commercial services are overloaded or under duress (hurricanes, ice storms, beach weekends)
- NC's FirstNet initiative transitioned from DPS to the State CIO's Office in 2014 with full support of the SCIO, DPS, and Commerce
- Partnership with utilities, telecommunication companies, and critical infrastructure providers is crucial to success



FirstNet Planning

- Phase I - Education, outreach, and planning
- Phase II – Requirements, design, and data gathering
- Existing state, local and commercial infrastructure will be used where available
- FirstNet plans to ensure Priority Access for First Responders
- FirstNet plans to ensure responders have a reliable, hardened, redundant, and secure wireless data communications capability



FirstNet Timeline to Date

- Winter 2013 – June 2014 – FirstNet Grant established within NCDPS
- Federal Planning Grant (SLIGP - NC FirstNet) moved to OITS in July 2014 – agreement between OITS, NCDPS, and NC Commerce
- Oct 2014 New Director hired – time-limited position funded by Federal FirstNet Grant
- Five additional staff (time-limited FirstNet funded grant positions) expected to be hired by mid-January
- Nov 2014 Outreach meeting held with public safety, utilities, Federal FirstNet
- December 2014 - Operational Scenario(s) development started

Future FirstNet Timeline

- Jan-March 2015 –education, outreach, and engagement
- April 2015 – State Coordination Meeting with Federal FirstNet
- Mid-2015 – Federal FirstNet Phase II grant funds released to NC
- Late 2015 – Federal FirstNet presents its plan to NC
- 2016 – NC FirstNet develops recommendation on participation



FirstNet Costs and Buildout

- \$7+ Billion from FCC Spectrum Auctions appears likely
- “Affordable” monthly user fee (just like cell phone)
- Charlotte planned \$42-\$48 range - likely high end monthly charge
- Startups offered to build capability at no cost to responders



Decision Required by NC

- State decision is Required – accept federal plan or State's own plan by late 2015/early 2016
- Accept FirstNet plan:
 - NC accepts Federal plan for North Carolina and proceeds on that path
- North Carolina decides to not use Federal FirstNet Plan
 - NC has six months to develop an alternative plan
 - NC would need to fund 20% of expected build-out costs
 - NC determines monthly cost but FirstNet still receives money to pay "Core" costs and all remaining collected money can only be used to support and extend FirstNet



Thank you

Questions?

